(b) whether Government have received any compIaints in this regard during the last six months; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to check this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DE-VELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) From time to time individual cases of diversion of funds from Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) are brought to the notice of the Government. As per the Concurrent Evaluation Report for January—June, 1987 coverage comprised 91 per cent families with income less than the cut off level of annual household income of Rs. 4800.

(b) and (c) Inspection reports of Accountant General received during the past six months have revealed two cases of diversion of funds from IRDP. One is to the District unit of M/s Agro Industries and Pumpsets Limited for implementation of their programme relating to establishment of Bio-gas plants in the ear 1984-85 in the case of Adilabad district, and the other in respect of Nizamabad district of Andhra Pradesh during 1984-85, for expansion of a Fish Seed Farm not included in the list of schemes approved by the State Level Sanctioning Committee. The Inspection reports have been sent to the State Government and District Rural Development Agencies for rectification and report compliance on the points raised by Audit.

Increase in the prices of Iron and Steel

412. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have re cently increased the base prices *ot* iron and steel materials by 15 per cent on an average; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES. (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The Joint Plant Com-mittee has increased the average prices of iron by 16 per cent and steel by about 15.6 per cent with effect from 24-12-1987.

(b) The increase in price was due to the increase in the cost of inputs such as coal, power, fuel and Railways freight.

Tha details of the JPC base prices of Steel (F.O.R. Railway Station) with - flect from 21.2.1985 and 24.12.1987 are indicated below —

(Rs./tonne)

	with effect from	
	21-2-1985	24-12-1987
PLATES 5 to 10 mm Above 10 mm	6360 6780	7690 8260

	With effect from	
	21.2.1985	24.12.1987
Structurals	6030	6550
Billets/R.C, Squares .	4200	5050
Blooms	3840	4650
Slabs	4040	4850
BASS & RODS		
Upto 10 mm	5150	6000
Above 10 mm to 25 mm	4900 .	5750
GP SHEETS|COILS		
1 6 mm *to* 1 0 mm .	7890	9060
Thinner than 1 0 mm to 0.63 mm	8900	9480
GC SHEETSICOILS		
16 mm to 1 0 mm	7940	9110
Thinner than 1 0 mm to 0 63 mm	8950	9530
HR COILS		
3-15 mm and below .	6190	7600
Above 3.15 mm to below 5 mm	6030	7479
HR SHEETS		
1 . 6 mm to 1 0 mm .	6790	8000
Thinner than 1.0 mm.	7290	8500
CR COILS		
1.6 mm to 1.0 mm .	8000	8990
Thinner than 10 mm.	8330	9320
CR SHEETS		
1 . 6 mm to 1 0 mm .	8070	9060
Thinner than 1 0 mm	8400	9390

Energy conservation in Central Government offices

413. SHRI HASHIM RAZA ALLAHABADI ABDI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take any steps to conserve energy in Central Governemnt offices and have formulated any guidelines in this regard;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is estimated amount of energy likely to be saved as a result thereof?